

Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park



Welcome! *The National Park Service has released a draft management plan for the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park. Today is your opportunity to learn more about our newest national park here in Paterson, and ask questions and voice your opinion to the National Park Service on the draft plan that will guide the park over the next 20 years.*

Thank you for joining us. This is one of three open houses being held to gather your comments and ideas for this new national park.

Saturday, January 23, 2016

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Rogers Meeting Center

32 Spruce Street

Paterson, NJ 07501

Wear comfortable shoes and enjoy a park tour.

Thursday, February 4, 2016

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

International High School

200 Grand Street

Paterson, NJ 07501

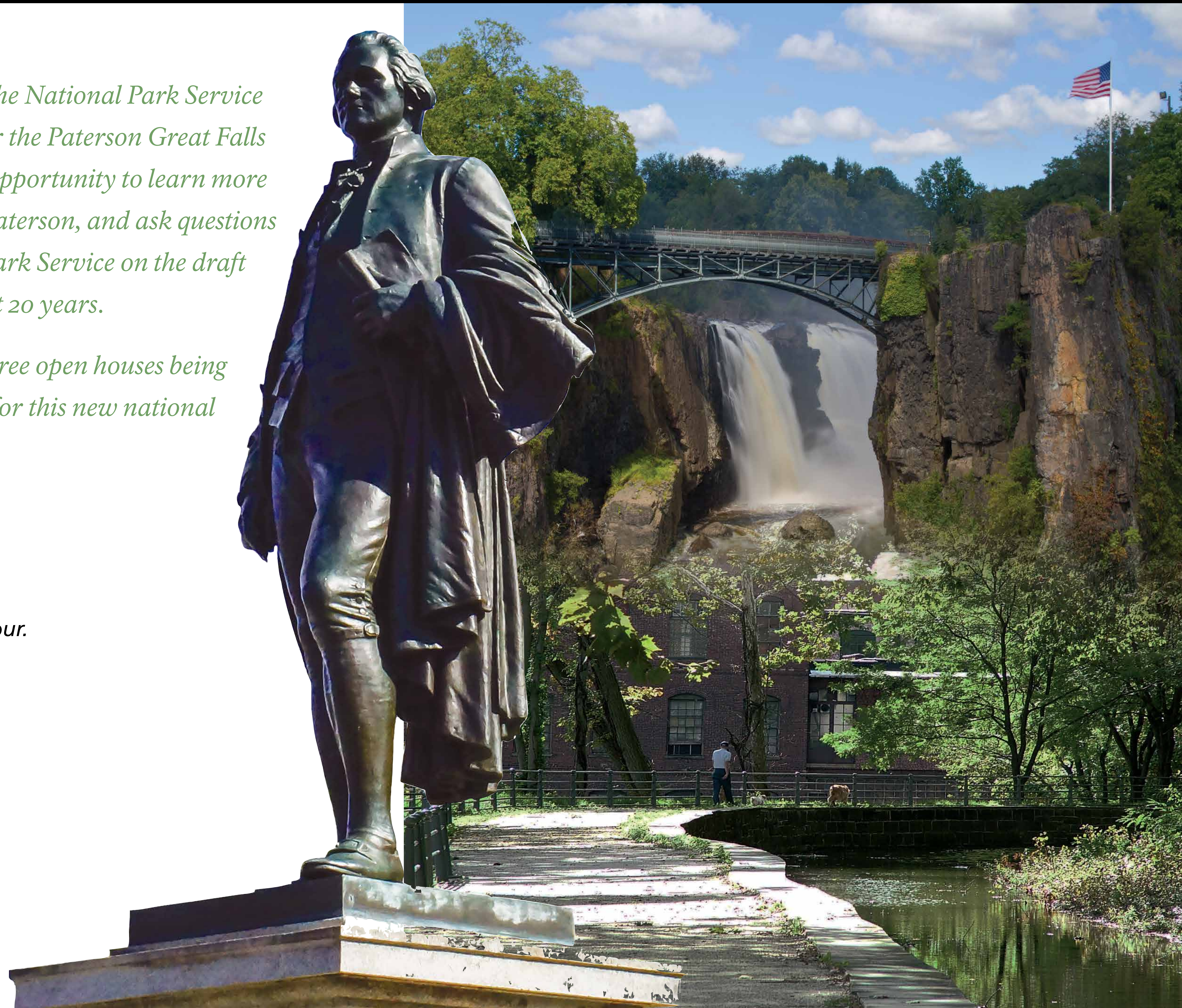
Monday, February 15, 2016

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Number 25 Elementary School

287 Trenton Ave

Paterson, NJ 07503



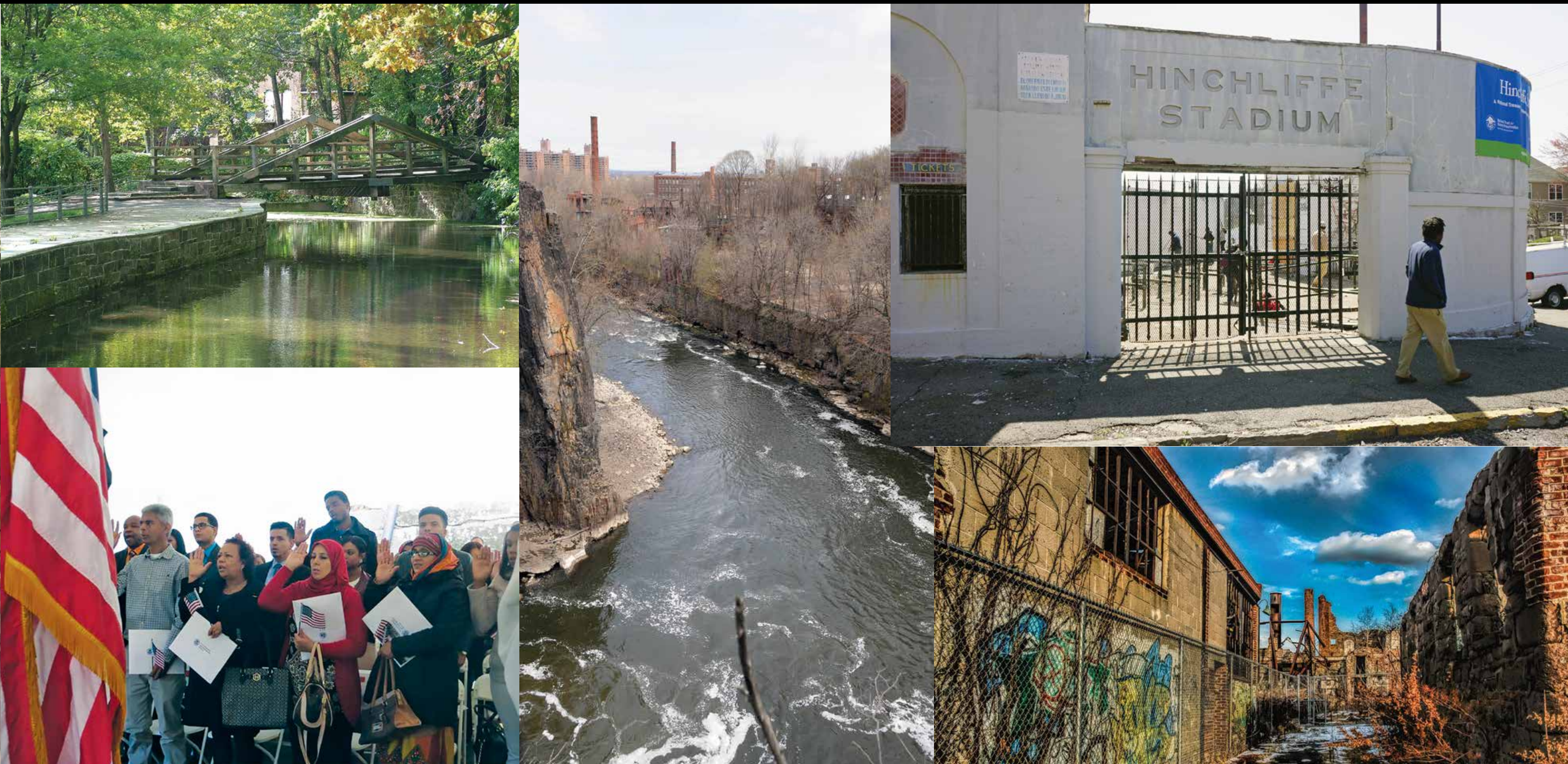
Foundation for Planning—Park Purpose and Significance

Every unit of the national park system is required to have a formal statement of its core mission to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions. The core components of the foundation for planning and management include the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, related resources and values, and interpretive themes.

Park Purpose

The park purpose is a specific reason for why Congress and/or the president established the park as a unit of the national park system. The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

Paterson Great Falls NHP preserves and interprets the natural beauty of the Great Falls of the Passaic River and the industrial, cultural and recreation landscape which formed around its endless source of power. The park and surrounding national historic landmark district illustrate the successful evolution of a manufacturing society which drew from the diversity and innovations of the American people for more than two centuries.



Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Paterson Great Falls NHP.

- **The Great Falls of the Passaic River**, with its natural chasm and 77 foot waterfall, provides an extraordinary scenic resource in the midst of an industrialized city and opportunities for relaxation, contemplation and inspiration.
- **Paterson Great Falls NHP and the national historic landmark district** provide one of the best opportunities to view a complete hydropower system from its source above the Great Falls of the Passaic to its transformation into power for the mills and the surrounding community. Alexander Hamilton's vision of a model manufacturing city, a central part of his economic strategy for the nation, is embedded in this industrial, cultural and natural landscape.
- **Paterson's raceway system** illustrates American ingenuity as the country grew to become a major industrial nation. The raceways offer an outstanding opportunity to interpret the city's industrial past and the Society for Useful Manufactures' role as a manufacturing incubator making it possible for immigrants to start businesses with limited resources and capital.
- **The entrepreneurship and innovations of Paterson's industrialists and workers** allowed the city to thrive and evolve over time in a long continuum of industrial use that continues today Paterson's success can be attributed in large part to immigrants who brought their creativity and experience to the city seeking a better life; a trend which has continued throughout the city's history.
- **Hinchliffe Stadium** is one of the best examples of a professional Negro League baseball venue. The location of the stadium was specifically sited above the Great Falls so patrons could have a commanding view of Paterson's ever evolving industrial, social and natural landscape.

Foundation for Planning—Fundamental Resources and Values and Interpretive Themes



Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park.

Geologic Formation and Features

The Great Falls of the Passaic were designated a National Natural Landmark in 1967; significant because of its creation by the Watchung basaltic lava flow. The geologic formation of the falls has created an extraordinary 77 foot fall into a naturally occurring chasm.

Hydrologic Systems and Features

The Passaic River is the principal drainage of the Great Swamp area that cuts its way through northern New Jersey and eventually cascades over the Great Falls in Paterson. The flowing water was the backbone of industrial development as the City of Paterson was planned and still provides power today. The river also provides an ecological and recreational value to an otherwise industrial city.

Historic Structures and Ruins

Paterson Great Falls NHP's historic structures, structural ruins, and associated archeological resources including the Society for Useful Manufactures' (SUM) Building, Allied Textile Printing (ATP) site (including the Colt Gun Mill ruins), the hydroelectricity steam plant ruins/foundation, and the Ivanhoe Wheelhouse, convey the history of the park's industrial history.

Raceway System

Paterson's system of raceways (gatehouses; wheelhouses; upper, middle, and lower raceways; spillways, outfalls and associated archeological resources) provides visitors with a complete vision and understanding of how the system functions as a whole and fits into the larger hydropower grid of the industrial landscape.

Hinchliffe Stadium

The municipal stadium hosted Negro League baseball games, and served as the home field for the New York Black Yankees and New York Cubans. When segregation of major league baseball ended, the stadium enjoyed new life as a center for sports and entertainment that continued to bring the people of Paterson together.

Natural Scenic and Industrial Landscape Views

The breathtaking views of the Great Falls and surrounding natural landscape allow a glimpse into the inherent beauty of nature in contrast to the manipulated landscape of the industrial city. The topography within the park provides visitors with panoramic views of the national historic landmark district's industrial landscape, reflecting settlement and industrial development patterns.

Experiential Elements of the Falls

The experience of hearing the water thunder over the falls, feeling the spray from the water crashing into the chasm, and watching the water churn down the river help the visitor understand the power of the flowing water.



Interpretive Themes

The most important ideas or concepts about Paterson Great Falls NHP are communicated through the park's interpretive themes. These themes are based on the park's purpose and significance and connect resources to relevant ideas, meanings, beliefs and values. They describe the key stories and concepts on which the park's educational and interpretive program are based. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The Natural Beauty that Inspired and Powered a Revolution

The Great Falls in the heart of Paterson has drawn people and inspired them—both for its natural beauty and for the power and the energy that it promises.

The Economic Vision that Shaped America

Paterson was founded on Alexander Hamilton's vision that freedom and independence for the United States would be based in a manufacturing economy that required a diversity of talents with promises of a better life for its people.

Innovation and Opportunity—the Power of American Manufacturing—

Through diversification of industries, technological innovation, and successive waves of industry and immigration, for more than two centuries Paterson continued to exemplify and reinvent Hamilton's vision of a planned manufacturing center.

Race, Recreation, and Respite

While the nation struggled with issues of race and civil rights, Paterson's Hinchliffe Stadium was home field for two Negro League baseball teams—the New York Black Yankees and New York Cubans—and a municipal sports and entertainment venue that offered respite from factory work and fostered civic pride.

The Paterson Great Falls: A New Plan for the National Park of America's First Planned Industrial City



The future of Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park is being explored right now and we invite you to be part of creating that vision by reviewing and commenting on the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (GMP/EA).

This draft plan is intended to guide management of the park over the next 20 years. Highlighted in this plan are different ideas (called alternatives) for protecting the Great Falls and Passaic River and preserving the park's historic sites and structures. In order to create the best possible plan, creative ideas are matched with scholarly and scientific information and analysis.

The GMP/EA must also comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This means that impacts to the social, cultural and natural environments in the park and surrounding areas will be taken into consideration.

What's An Alternative?

In this GMP, the different options to achieve a new vision for the park are called alternatives. Alternatives provide reasonable and achievable ways of sharing Paterson's stories, managing the park's natural and cultural resources, providing educational experiences and collaborating with others within the surrounding NHL district.

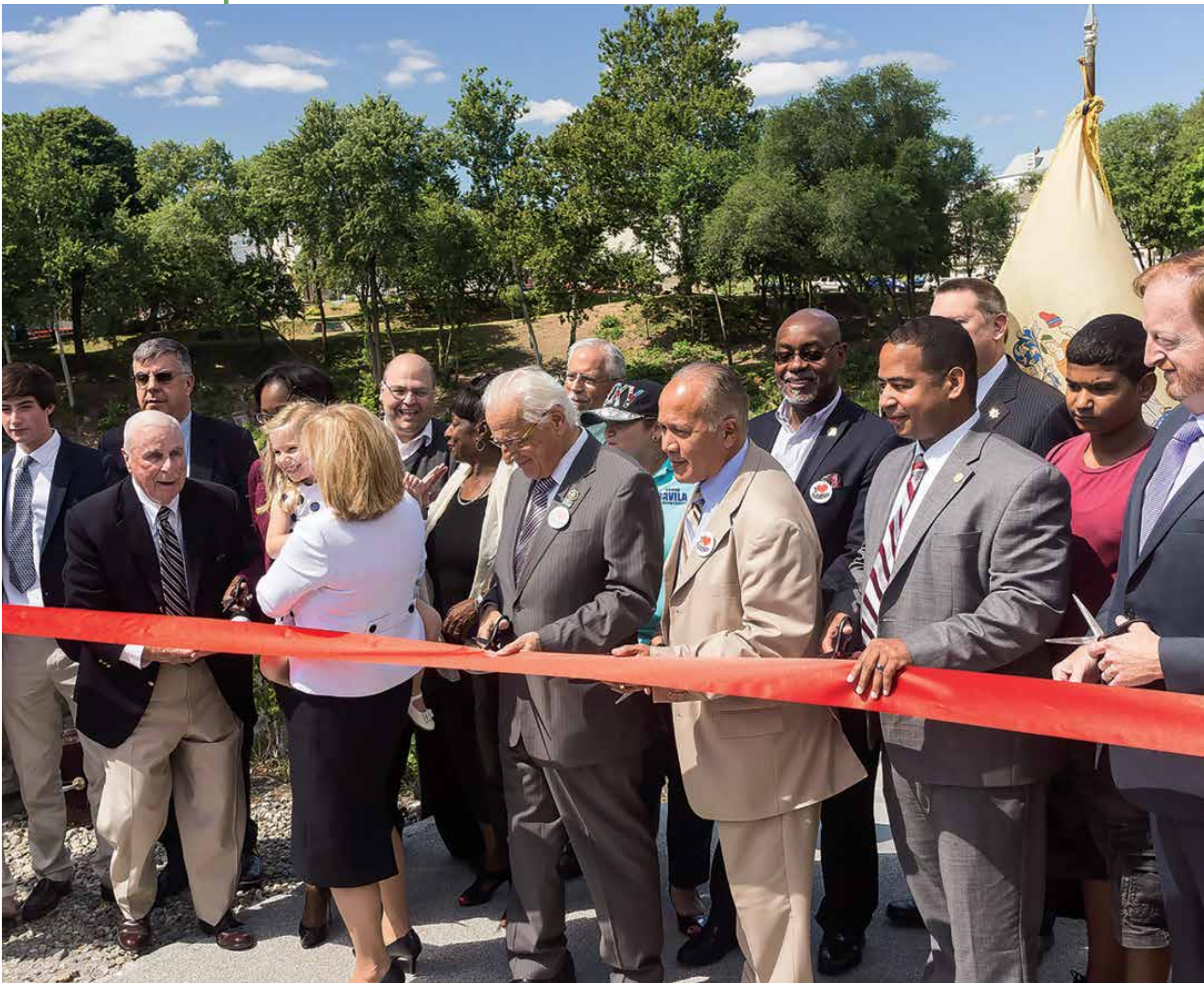
The alternatives include a "no action alternative" and two "action alternatives". The "no action alternative", alternative A, assumes park management would continue without a 20 year vision. The "action alternatives", alternatives B and C, reflect how the NPS and partners would manage the park to achieve different visions for its future.

Alternative A: Establishing a New National Park

In Alternative A, NPS and partners would continue working together to preserve resources, engage visitors and cooperatively manage park areas generally as they do today. The primary visitor experience would be through self-guided tours, independent park exploration and passive recreation.

Mary Ellen Kramer Park, Overlook Park—with views of the Great Falls and the Passaic River—and the nearby **Welcome Center** and the **Paterson Museum** would continue to be the primary destinations in the park. Some visitors would explore the park on trails above the falls and in **Raceway Park**, using self-guided interpretive materials or on NPS and partner-guided tours. Some visitors would also explore the adjoining NHL district and participate in cultural events. Interpretive and educational programming, facilities and staffing would generally continue at current levels.

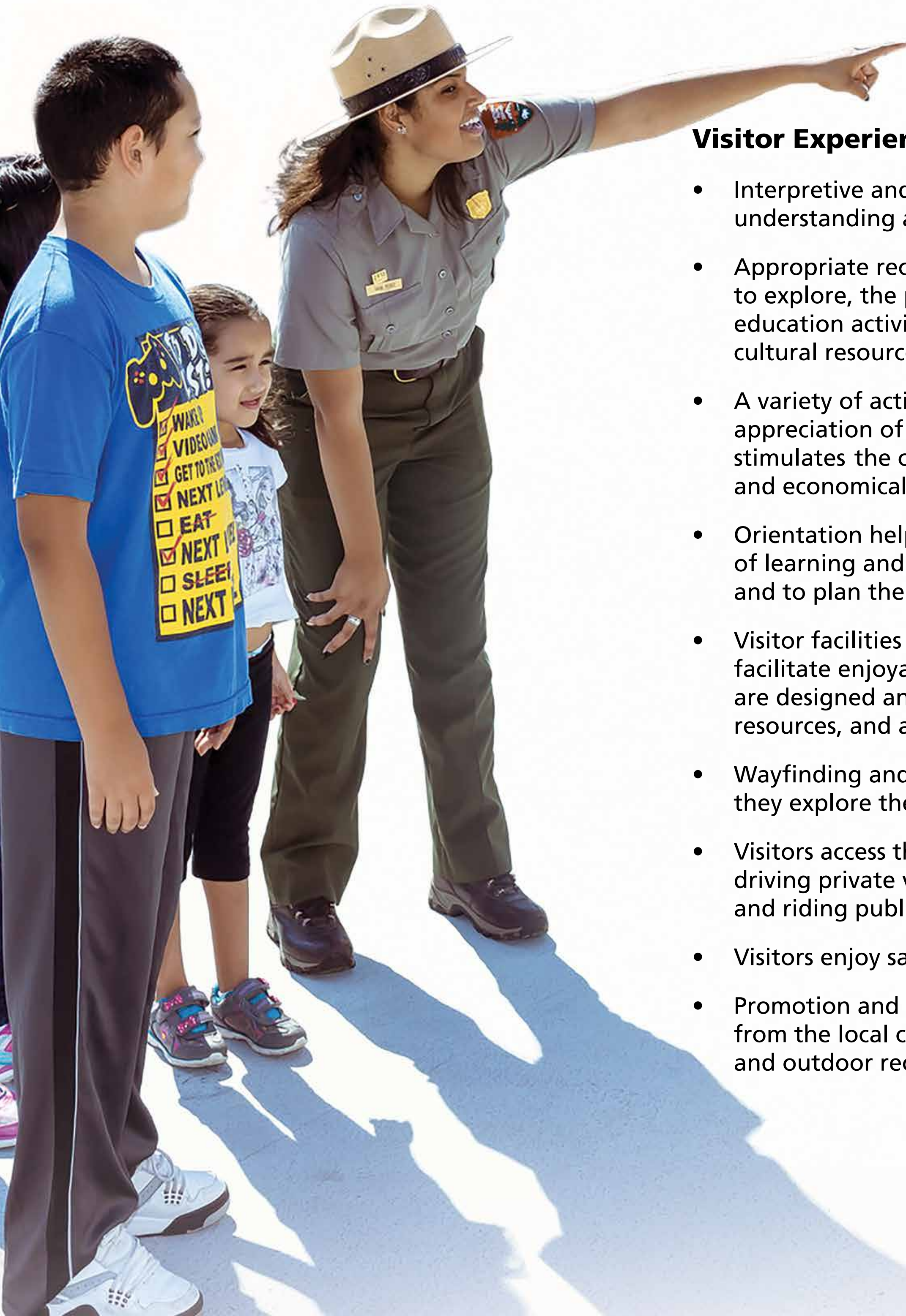
Collaboration with partners would facilitate ongoing programs and activities related to interpretation and education, visitor services, and protection of the park's cultural and natural resources. New projects would include those that are already approved and funded by the partners at Overlook Park, the S.U.M. Hydroelectric Plant, the ATP Site and Hinchliffe Stadium.



Management Goals: Alternatives B and C



Management goals related to visitor experience, and natural and cultural resource management would be common to both alternatives B and C.



Visitor Experience Goals

- Interpretive and educational programs increase visitor understanding and appreciation of the park's resources.
- Appropriate recreational use provides an opportunity to explore, the park and enhances interpretive and education activities while respecting the natural and cultural resources.
- A variety of activities promotes understanding and appreciation of Paterson's cultural heritage and stimulates the community culturally, artistically and economically.
- Orientation helps visitors understand the variety of learning and recreation opportunities at the park and to plan their visit to better satisfy their interests.
- Visitor facilities and services serve visitors needs and facilitate enjoyable and educational visits to the park, are designed and located with minimal impact on park resources, and are aesthetically pleasing and functional.
- Wayfinding and interpretive signage guides visitors as they explore the park and the NHL district.
- Visitors access the park by many travel modes— driving private vehicles, riding bicycles, walking, and riding public transportation.
- Visitors enjoy safe and secure experiences at the park.
- Promotion and marketing of the park attracts visitors from the local community, cultural heritage travelers, and outdoor recreation enthusiasts.

Cultural Resource Management Goals

- Paterson Great Falls NHP is engaged in the continuing study and assessment of the park's cultural resources, including it cultural landscape, historic structures, archeological, collections and ethnographic resources.
- The partners collaborate to preserve the park's historic properties by seeking viable contemporary uses for its cultural landscapes and historic structures.
- The archeological resources associated with the people and history of the park are monitored and protected.
- Collections and archives associated with the sites and stories of the park are preserved and available to the public.
- Ethnographic resources having cultural importance for traditionally associated people and tribes are identified and protected.
- Future uses of land within the Paterson Great Falls National Historic Landmark District are managed to preserve and interpret the district's historic, cultural and natural resources.

Natural Resource Management and Climate Change Goals

- Natural systems are managed to maintain a healthy ecosystem while protecting the park's cultural resources.
- Natural geologic process/features persist largely unimpeded by human-induced impacts.
- Native plant and animal populations are protected.
- Threatened and endangered species and habitat are protected to the greatest extent possible and other particularly sensitive species are closely monitored and protected.
- Physical, chemical, and hydrological properties and dynamics of water reflect natural water quality conditions (water quality is improving).
- The challenges of climate change and its effects on park resources are addressed through innovation, adaptation best management practices and partnerships.
- Contributions to global warming at Paterson Great Falls NHP are minimized, providing a model for others for reducing energy and resource consumption.

Alternative B: Landscape Exploration



Concept—Through a multisensory experience, visitors explore the park, learning about the resources that fueled America’s early industrial development and enjoying contemporary recreational pursuits amid the landscape setting.

Key Ideas for Overlook Park, The Landing, Mary Ellen Kramer Park, Maple Avenue Parkland and Valley of the Rocks

- promotes multi-sensory experience— see/hear/feel power of river
- creates more access – into chasm, cliff top views, edge of river, base of cliffs
- expands community gathering space and viewing areas
- improves paths and access up, down and across the river
- provides visitor contact, services, and park offices near Falls area
- develops new visitor contact area in Overlook Park that offers indoor program space, outdoor gathering site, new exhibits, and visitor amenities
- preserves the setting and exteriors of the hydropower plant, Great Falls Development Corp building, the Passaic Water Company Falls pumping station and historic arch bridge,
- stabilizes the S.U.M. dam and Ryle dam and improves water flow

Key Ideas for Allied Textile Printing Site

- transforms site into a community recreation area where local residents and visitors participate in a variety of activities and special events and have greater access to the Passaic River
- develops green space, gardens as well as areas for informal gatherings, interpretive programs, outdoor classrooms, and community celebrations
- stabilizes select ruins and structures as a backdrop for recreation and interpretation
- protects views of industrial landscape at ATP site and Historic District
- preserves the Colt Gun Mill and select features of remaining structures would be made safe and preserved as landscape features reflecting the site’s industrial history

Key ideas for Raceway System, Rogers Locomotive Building and Historic Landscape

- preserves upper, middle and lower raceways in park boundary (with water) for interpretation
- improves and interprets Upper Raceway Park landscape
- promotes self-exploration of middle and lower raceways
- develops a new trail adjacent to the raceways and city streets through the historic district to provide opportunities to view and access the historic features and structures of the raceway system
- preserves Ivanhoe Wheelhouse, S.U.M. Gatehouse, Rogers Locomotive Building and Historic District setting and features
- provides special events including lectures, presentations, exhibits, performances and other events held at the park’s historic sites and structures

Key Ideas for Hinchliffe Stadium

- offers outdoor special events and programs, community celebrations, and athletic events, hosted by the NPS, partners and others
- provides a variety of educational and athletic programs, with a focus on youth
- rehabilitates historic structures associated with the stadium to support a variety of educational programs, athletic programs, community activities, and events celebrating Paterson’s history and the diverse cultural heritage and interests of its residents



Alternative C: Industrial Heritage Immersion



Concept—Through interpretive programming and rehabilitation of historic resources, visitors are immersed in the historical setting, and explore the park with a focus on learning about its industrial heritage.

Key Ideas for Overlook Park, The Landing, Mary Ellen Kramer Park, Maple Avenue Parkland and Valley of the Rocks

- continues existing observation areas in Overlook Park and near the waterfall and chasm rim, offering scenic views and sounds of the falls and flowing water
- promotes existing recreational activities and special events including hands-on educational programs, art shows, and cultural celebrations in the Great Falls area
- improves physical connections between falls area, historic district and related industrial history sites to enhance the visitor's understanding of the cultural and industrial landscape
- preserves the setting, interiors and exteriors of structures and the historic arch bridge
- stabilizes the S.U.M. dam and Ryle dam and improves water flow

Key Ideas for Allied Textile Printing Site

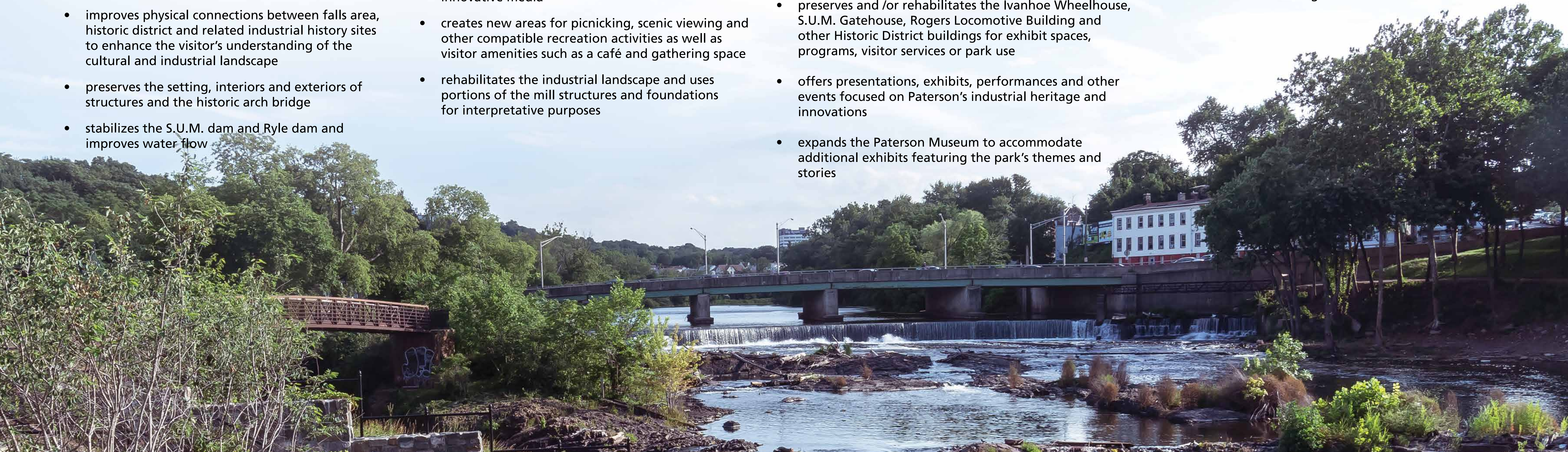
- develops site as an industrial history park and serves as a destination for experiencing the continuum of Paterson industrial uses and innovation
- stabilizes, preserves and/or rehabilitates site and structures including river wall, Colt Gun Mill, ruins, smokestack, foundations, landscapes
- showcases new and emerging technology and innovations through art installations, exhibits and innovative media
- creates new areas for picnicking, scenic viewing and other compatible recreation activities as well as visitor amenities such as a café and gathering space
- rehabilitates the industrial landscape and uses portions of the mill structures and foundations for interpretative purposes

Key ideas for Raceway System, Rogers Locomotive Building and Historic Landscapes

- rehabilitates raceway system (includes all structures/ water) throughout the Historic District
- provides visitor orientation, services and park offices in Historic District
- develops dedicated trail along raceways (beginning to end) with improved landscaping, interpretive signage and programs along entire length
- preserves and /or rehabilitates the Ivanhoe Wheelhouse, S.U.M. Gatehouse, Rogers Locomotive Building and other Historic District buildings for exhibit spaces, programs, visitor services or park use
- offers presentations, exhibits, performances and other events focused on Paterson's industrial heritage and innovations
- expands the Paterson Museum to accommodate additional exhibits featuring the park's themes and stories

Key Ideas for Hinchliffe Stadium

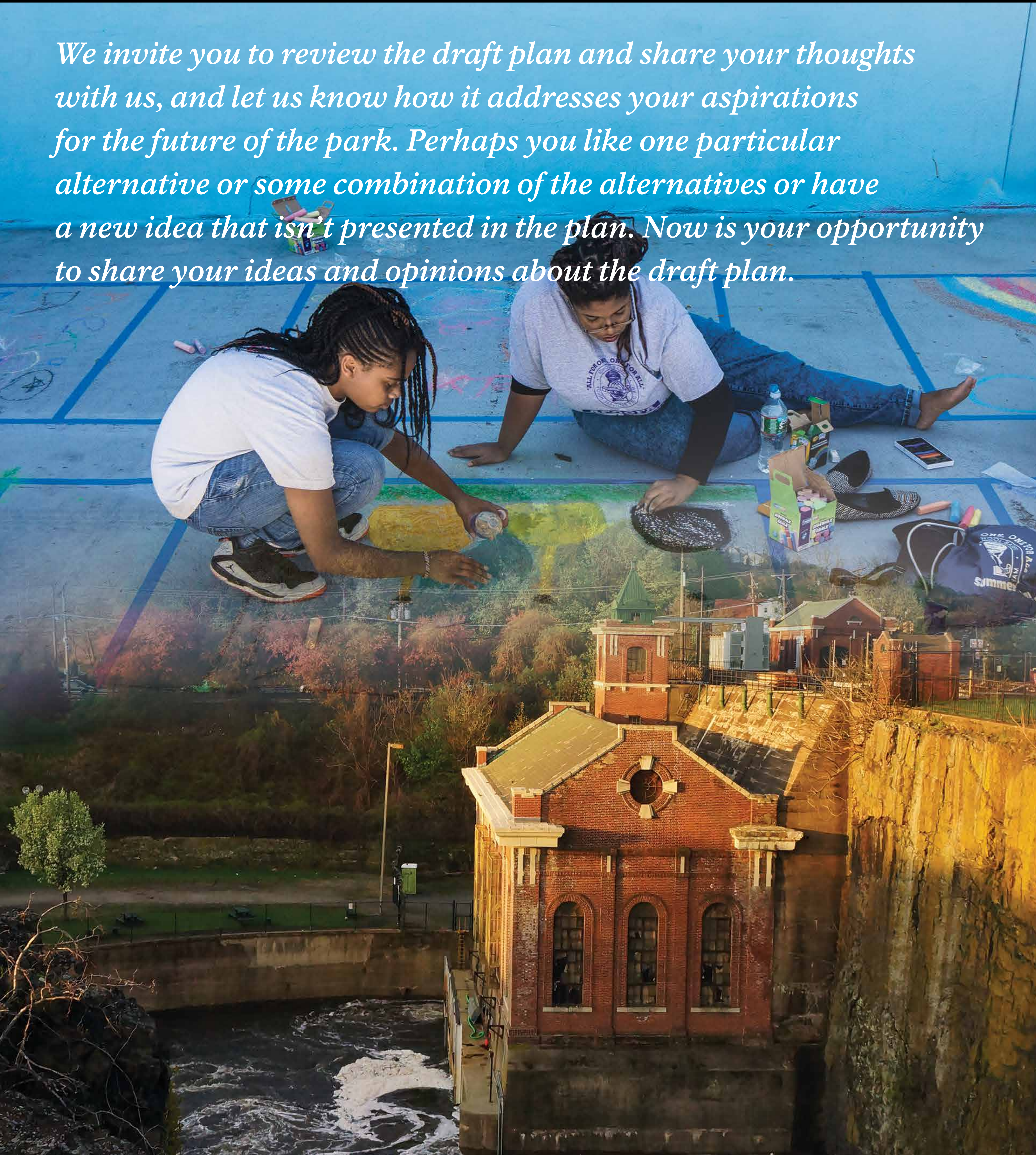
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- rehabilitates historic structures associated with the stadium to support a variety of educational programs, athletic programs, community activities, and events celebrating Paterson's history and the diverse cultural heritage and interests of its residents



Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment



We invite you to review the draft plan and share your thoughts with us, and let us know how it addresses your aspirations for the future of the park. Perhaps you like one particular alternative or some combination of the alternatives or have a new idea that isn't presented in the plan. Now is your opportunity to share your ideas and opinions about the draft plan.



Voice Your Opinion!

Share Your Ideas Today
[Fill out a comment form](#)

Fill out a Comment Form Online at
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/PatersonGreatFallsDGMP>

Visit the Website at
<http://www.nps.gov/pagr>

Check out the Park Planning section for updated and expanded information on GMP activities.

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